



## **Community Services Fact Sheet**

**Facilitator:** Peri Sue Zausner, President, General Council of Homeowner Associations of Port Washington

### **Relevant Governmental Entities:**

Town of North Hempstead  
Village of Baxter Estates  
Village of Flower Hill  
Village of Manorhaven  
Village of Plandome Manor  
Village of Port Washington North  
Village of Sands Point  
Port Washington Union Free School District  
Port Washington Public Library

### **Individuals Interviewed**

Madge Kaplan, Commissioner of Community Services, Town of North Hempstead  
Phyllis Joseph, Landmark on Main Street  
Patrick Foye, United Way  
June Brereton, Community Chest of Port Washington  
Mario Martinez, Community Action Council  
Nancy Curtin, Port Washington Public Library  
Nancy Cowles, Port Washington Union Free School District

## Community Services

Community services address the needs of a population including seniors, children, teenagers, working parents, the unemployed, and the poor. Forty percent of the Port Washington Peninsula population is either over 65 years old or under 19 years old.<sup>1</sup> About 4 percent of the Port Washington Peninsula households are below the poverty level.<sup>2</sup> There are many non-profit, governmental, and religious organizations providing services to those in need in the Port Washington community.

The geographic isolation of the Port Washington Peninsula is often an extra strain on those in need of community services. Most service providers such as homeless shelters and medical services are off peninsula. Many of the Nassau County service agencies are located in the Town of Hempstead. With limited public transportation, it is difficult for those in need to reach the service providers.<sup>3</sup>



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<sup>1</sup> US Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data. DP-1 Profile of General Demographic Characteristics. - 11050 zip code

<sup>2</sup> US Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) – Sample Data. DP-3 Profile of Selected Economic Characteristics. - 11050 zip code

<sup>3</sup> Nancy Curtin, Port Washington Public Library, March 2005.

## Social and Economic Information

- The **median family income** is \$102,064 and over 20 percent of families earn over \$200,000 annually.<sup>4</sup>
  - The median family income for the Port Washington Peninsula is \$20,818 **higher** than the median family income for Nassau County.
- The Port Washington Peninsula **median household income**, which includes family and individual households, is \$85,086 annually with 5.5 percent of individuals and 4 percent of families living below the poverty level.<sup>5</sup>
- Three percent of the workforce population on the Port Washington Peninsula are **unemployed**.<sup>6</sup>
  - In **Nassau County**, about 3.7 percent of the workforce population are unemployed.

**Table 1: Economic Information for the Port Washington Peninsula<sup>7</sup>**

City	Median Household Income	Median Family Income	Unemployment Rate	Households below Poverty Level
Baxter Estates	\$84,592	\$111,074	2.5%	4%
Flower Hill	\$121,999	\$133,075	2.5%	3%
Manorhaven	\$61,474	\$66,744	3.2%	8%
Plandome Manor	\$176,959	\$193,496	0%	2%
Port Washington North	\$89,287	\$100,730	2.0%	5%
Sands Point	Over \$200,000	\$200,001	1.5%	2%
Unincorporated Port Washington	\$85,837	\$102,646	1.5%	5%

- More than half of the Port Washington Peninsula population over 25 has **earned at least a bachelor's degree**.<sup>8</sup>
  - In **Nassau County**, 35.4 percent of the population has earned at least a bachelor's degree.
- Approximately 90 percent of the Port Washington Peninsula population are **high school graduates**.<sup>9</sup>
  - In **Nassau County**, approximately 86.7 percent of the population are high school graduates.

<sup>4</sup> US Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) – Sample Data. DP-3 Profile of Selected Economic Characteristics - 11050 zip code & Nassau County

<sup>5</sup> ibid

<sup>6</sup> ibid

<sup>7</sup> ibid

<sup>8</sup> US Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) – Sample Data. DP-2 Profile of Selected Social Characteristics - 11050 zip code & Nassau County

<sup>9</sup> ibid

- Between 1990 and 2000, the percentage of the population who graduated from college **increased 9.7 percent**.<sup>10</sup>
  - In **Nassau County**, the percentage of the population who graduated from college increased over 21 percent.
- The majority of Port Washington Peninsula residents work in **management, professional, and related occupations** (53.6 percent).<sup>11</sup>
  - In **Nassau County**, the 41 percent of the population work in management, professional, and related occupations.
- More than one fourth of the Port Washington Peninsula population (27 percent) works in **service, sales, and office occupations**.<sup>12</sup>
  - In **Nassau County**, the 44.1 percent of the population work in service, sales, and office occupations.
- Approximately 13 percent of Port Washington residents **work for the public sector**.<sup>13</sup>
  - In **Nassau County**, the 17.1 percent of the population work for the public sector.
- The number of **self-employed Port Washington residents** increased 47.2 percent between 1990 and 2000.<sup>14</sup>
  - In **Nassau County**, the number of self-employed residents decreased by 12.6 percent between 1990 and 2000.

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<sup>10</sup> US Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) – Sample Data. DP-2 Profile of Selected Social Characteristics 11050 zip code & Nassau County

<sup>11</sup> US Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) – Sample Data. DP-3 Profile of Selected Economic Characteristics 11050 zip code & Nassau County

<sup>12</sup> ibid

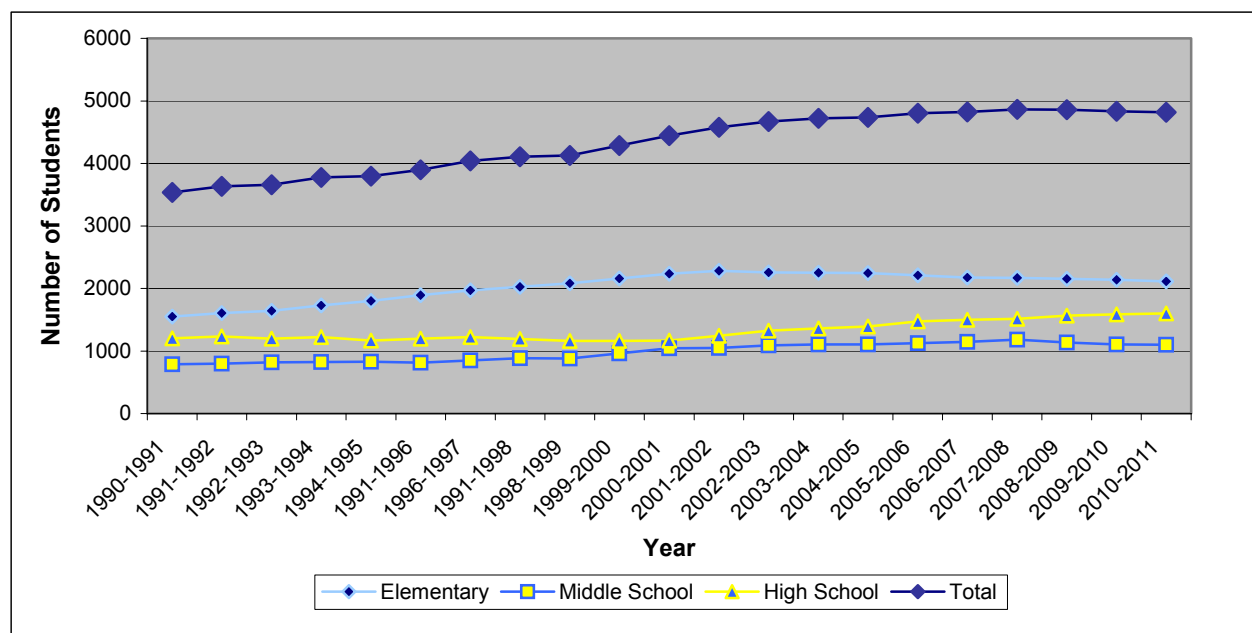
<sup>13</sup> ibid

<sup>14</sup> US Census Summary File 3 (SF 3) – Sample Data. Industry by Type of Worker. 11050 zip code & Nassau County

## Port Washington Union Free School District

- The Port Washington Union Free School District (PWUFSD) serves the peninsula of Port Washington. The PWUFSD's current enrollment for 2003-2004 is **4,738 students in grades K-12**.<sup>15</sup>
- According to the PWUFSD, by the 2010-2011 school year the annual **K-12 enrollment** is anticipated to **increase approximately 2 percent** to 4,816 students.<sup>16</sup>
  - A 5 percent decrease in elementary enrollment.
  - Less than 1 percent decrease in middle school enrollment.
  - High school enrollment is expected to increase 15 percent.

**Figure 1: Historical and Projected School Enrollment for the Port Washington Union Free School District<sup>17</sup>**



- In 2002-2003, the school district was:<sup>18</sup>
  - 70.8 percent white.
  - 13.8 percent Hispanic.
  - 2.5 percent African American.
  - 12.9 percent Asian, American Indian, Alaskan, or Pacific Islander.
  - The **average class size** in the district was 19.3 students.
  - Approximately 8 percent of the students had **limited English proficiency**.
- Approximately 6 percent were **eligible for free lunches**.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>15</sup> Port Washington Union Free School District Enrollment Projections, February, 7, 2005.

<sup>16</sup> ibid

<sup>17</sup> ibid

<sup>18</sup> Port Washington Union Free School District, February 2005.

- Approximately 754 **special education students** attend PWUFSD.
- Currently, the school system has **five elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school.**<sup>20</sup>
- The **budget for the 2004-2005 school year** was \$99.8 million, a 8.55% increase from the budget for the 2003-2004 school year.
- The **per-pupil expenditure** is \$19,471.<sup>21</sup>
- The Board of Education (School Board) includes seven board members who are elected to three-year terms.<sup>22</sup>
  - The **School Board appoints:**
    - Superintendent of Schools.
    - Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment.
    - Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and General Administration.
    - Assistant Superintendent for Business.
- Since the 1998-1999 school year, the **Full Time Equivalents (FTE) in instructional staff** have increased 19 percent.<sup>23</sup>
- The PWUFSD also offers **continuing education classes** for community members over the age of 21.
  - The classes offered through the Continuing and Community Education Program include English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL), basic academic classes, and classes to help individuals work toward their high school equivalency diploma.
  - In addition, the Educational Advancement Program offers advisement services to help evaluate individual needs.<sup>24</sup>
- The PWUFSD also offers **Business Instructional Training Services (BITS)** to local businesses that have staff training needs.
  - The BITS offers classes in accounting/finance, information technology and computer skills, human resources, marketing/advertising, and workplace literacy (language skills or English as a second language).<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> Letter from Kevin O'Brien, Assistant Business Administrator, Port Washington Union Free School District.

<sup>20</sup> New York State Department of Education. *New York State District Report Card Comprehensive Information Report: Port Washington Union Free School District*. 2004.

<sup>21</sup> Port Washington Union Free School District, *2004-2005 Proposed School Budget*. 2004

<sup>22</sup> Port Washington Union Free School District. *The District*.

<sup>23</sup> Letter from Kevin O'Brien, Assistant Business Administrator, Port Washington Union Free School District.

<sup>24</sup> Port Washington Union Free School District website <http://schools.portnet.k12.ny.us>

<sup>25</sup> *ibid*

## Port Washington Public Library

- The Port Washington Library (Library) is **located** on Main Street in the Village of Baxter Estates.
- The Port Washington Library is a **school district public library**, and as such serves all residents within the PWUFSD.
- The Library was **started in 1892** by the Women's Club of Port Washington in a local home.<sup>26</sup>
  - Between 1892 and 1970, the Library expanded many times.
  - Finally, in 1970, the current building was completed and the Library introduced the On-Line Public Access Catalog in 1995.
- The Library is **governed by a seven-member Board of Trustees**, elected to five year terms.
- The Library has one library director, 20 certified librarians, and 36.5 other staff members.<sup>27</sup>
- In 2005, the **Library's budget** is \$5.6 million, a 3.8 percent increase from 2004.<sup>28</sup>
- **The Library has:**<sup>29</sup>
  - 176,056 print materials.
  - 117,590 audio-visual holdings
  - 61 databases.
  - 472 serial subscriptions.
  - Public meeting rooms.
  - 34 public computers with Internet access.
  - A small coffee shop.
  - Over 380,000 visitors.
  - 20,359 registered borrowers.



- The Library not only offers computers with Internet access to the public, but also offers **computer training classes**.
- For many on the Peninsula, the **Library is their only access to a computer** or the Internet.<sup>30</sup>
- With twelve departments, the Library offers a **wide range of community services** including English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), a Health Center, and programs for children and teens.<sup>31</sup>
- The Library has a **Local History Center** with 48 special collections that include artifacts, manuscripts, pictures, letters, documents, maps, postcards, and scrapbooks.<sup>32</sup>

<sup>26</sup> "General Policy Section" Port Washington Public Library.

<sup>27</sup> Staffing numbers are Full Time Equivalents (FTE)

<sup>28</sup> "Port Washington Public Library Annual Report for Public and Association Libraries – 2004."

<sup>29</sup> ibid

<sup>30</sup> Nancy Curtin, Port Washington Public Library. Personal Interview. January 2005.

<sup>31</sup> Port Washington Public Library website. <http://www.pwpl.org/index.html>

- The Library's Local History Collection is supplemented by an **Oral History Program** with over 200 interviews and 8,000 pages of transcript.
  - The mission of the Oral History Program, founded in 1980, is “to capture on tape the memories of those men and women who have shaped Port Washington’s history, and to preserve that memory for future generations.”
- The Library also offers workshops, lectures, walking tours, exhibitions, film screenings, and special events about the **local history of the Peninsula**.

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<sup>32</sup> Port Washington Public Library website. <http://www.pwpl.org/index.html>



## Community Chest of Port Washington

Started in 1949 to consolidate funding for local agencies, the Community Chest of Port Washington (Community Chest) provides funding to **28 local agencies** serving the Port Washington Peninsula including:<sup>33</sup>

- Boy Scouts
  - Child Abuse Prevention Services (CAPS)
  - Community Scholarship Fund
  - The Education and Assistance Corporation (EAC)
  - Family & Children's Association
  - Girl Scouts
  - Hospice Care Network
  - Landmark on Main Street Community Center
  - Littig House Community Center
  - Long Island Alzheimer's Foundation, Inc. (LIAF)
  - Mental Health Association
  - Nassau County Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Inc.
  - North Shore Child and Family Guidance Center
  - North Shore–Long Island Jewish Health System
  - Parent Resource Center
  - Port Athletic League (PAL)
  - Port Counseling Center
  - Port Washington Children's Center
  - Port Washington Senior Citizens, Inc.
  - Port Washington Senior Community Service Center
  - Port Washington Soccer Club
  - Port Washington Twin Pines Consumers Association, Inc.
  - Port Washington Youth Activities (PYA)
  - Port Youth Council
  - Sousa Band Shell
  - St. Francis Hospital
- The Community Chest is a **non-profit organization** with a Board of Directors, Executive Board, and staff members.<sup>34</sup>
    - The 60-member Board of Directors meets quarterly and provides oversight over the organization.
    - A smaller 12-member Executive Board meets monthly and sets policies for the organization.
    - A small staff then administers the day-to-day operations of the agency.
  - The member agencies are **reviewed annually** to renew their membership with the Community Chest. At this time, new memberships are considered.<sup>35</sup>

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<sup>33</sup> June Brereton, Executive Director, Community Chest of Port Washington. Personal Interview, March 14, 2005. and Community Chest of Port Washington website: <http://www.portchest.org>

<sup>34</sup> *ibid*

## Senior Issues

- The number of individuals in Port Washington that are over 65 years old **increased 10 percent** between 1990 and 2000.<sup>36</sup>
  - Currently, 26 percent of the population is over 65 years old.
  - The number of people over 85 years old increased 58 percent between 1990 and 2000.
  - While the number of seniors over 65 as a whole has increased on the Port Washington Peninsula, the number in Nassau County has decreased.
- Traditionally, the **Town of North Hempstead Department of Community Services** has provided services to seniors including transportation, housing, and financial assistance.
- In addition there are two senior programs that **offer services to seniors** on the Port Washington Peninsula:
  - The Port Washington Senior Citizen Center located on Manorhaven Boulevard.
  - The Port Washington Senior Community Service Center located at St. Stephen's Church on Main Street.
  - Both centers offer transportation assistance, free or low cost lunches, craft, exercise, lectures, social programs.
- There are multiple **senior housing developments** including Mill Pond and the Addison House.
- However, there is not as much **subsidized senior housing available** on the Port Washington Peninsula.
  - The **Landmark on Main Street (Landmark)** is a community center that has 50 subsidized senior housing apartments for rent and nine apartments for the developmentally disabled over age 52.
    - The Landmark opened in 1995 and offers teen programs, childcare, a parent resource center, and a 425-seat theater open to the public.<sup>37</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> ibid

<sup>36</sup> 2000 US Census Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics. - 11050 zip code and Nassau County

<sup>37</sup> Interview with Phyllis Joseph, Landmark on Main Street. January 2005.

## Youth Issues

- The over 7,500 people **under 19 years of age** in Port Washington account for almost one quarter of the population.<sup>38</sup>
- There is a growing concern on the Port Washington Peninsula about **gang activity and youth involvement in gangs**.
  - While the three police departments have developed gang units or task forces, there is great interest in the community service community to develop a comprehensive program to address gang activity.
  - It is also important to offer after school activities to keep children and teenagers from participating in gang activity.<sup>39</sup>
    - Many service providers on the Port Washington Peninsula who work with youth agree that there is a need for more after school programs for children ages 13-16.<sup>40</sup>
    - It is critical to offer activities for children between the end of the school day and dinner because this time period is when children typically get into trouble if they are not involved with activities.<sup>41</sup>
    - Currently there is no YMCA, YWCA or YHA on the peninsula. The nearest YMCA/YWCA/YHA is in Dix Hills approximately 23 miles from the peninsula.<sup>42</sup> The Landmark has a public gym for the youth of the Port Washington Peninsula, but it currently does not have a swimming pool.
    - In addition, the Landmark houses the **Port Washington Youth Council's Teen Center**. The Teen Center offers a place for teenagers ages 14 – 17 to go after school. In addition to the gym, there is a lounge available to the teenagers.<sup>43</sup>
- The Library offers many programs for **youth ages birth to 18**.<sup>44</sup>
  - The **Young Adult Services** department offers programs and services for teenagers in grades 7-12.
  - The **TeenSpace** is a room in the library for teens to “study, read, and relax.”
    - The Young Adult staff is specially trained to provide services to teenagers, and TeenSpace houses the collections that teenagers will most likely need in their research.
  - The Children's Services Department offers a **Children's Room**, which serves children up through sixth grade.
- The PWUFSD offers a **summer program for children nursery through eighth grade**. The AT LAST! Program offers a Primary program for children ages nursery through second grade; Intermediate program for children ages third through eighth grade; Summer Discoveries for children ages nursery through eighth grade; and Counselor-in-Training for seventh and eighth grade students.
  - The Primary and Intermediate Programs offer a variety of classes and activities including: arts and crafts, math and science, Spanish, recreational swimming, and music.

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<sup>38</sup> 2000 US Census Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics. - 11050 zip code and Nassau County

<sup>39</sup> Interview with Mario Martinez, Community Action Council, January 19, 2005.

<sup>40</sup> Patrick Foye, United Way, Mario Martinez, Community Action Council, Phyllis Joseph, Landmark, June Brereton, Community Chest, Nancy Curtin, Port Washington Public Library.

<sup>41</sup> Interview with Patrick Foye, United Way, January 12, 2005.

<sup>42</sup> ibid

<sup>43</sup> Phyllis Joseph, Landmark on Main Street, Personal Interview, January 2005.

<sup>44</sup> Port Washington Public Library website. <http://www.pwpl.org/index.html>

- The Summer Discoveries program offers more classes and activities in the afternoon including sports, swimming, and Model Congress.
- Children in seventh and eighth grades also have the opportunity to receive training and experience working with young people through the **Counselor-in-Training Program**. These youth work as assistants in the morning classes.<sup>45</sup>
- The Landmark at Main Street also houses the **Parent Resource Center (PRC)** for young parents and children of all ages.<sup>46</sup> The PRC offers:<sup>47</sup>
  - Classes for infants and toddlers and their parents: Mommy & Me, Kindermusik, and Exploring Art.
  - Classes for older children: Science Fun, Musical Theatre, Reading Readiness, and Multi-Media Crafts.

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<sup>45</sup> Port Washington Union Free School District.

<sup>46</sup> Phyllis Joseph, Landmark on Main Street. Personal Interview. January 2005

<sup>47</sup> Parent Resource Center website. [www.parentresource.org/](http://www.parentresource.org/)

## Parents

- Approximately 30 percent of **families have children under 6 years old**.<sup>48</sup> In nearly half of these families, both parents are employed.
- **Single parent households** with children under 18 years of age comprise approximately 14.8 percent of the family households on the Port Washington Peninsula.<sup>49</sup>
  - In **Nassau County**, single parent households with children under 18 years of age comprise approximately 18.7 percent of family households.
- Between 1990 and 2000, the number of **two parent households** increased 4.2 percent while **single parent households** decreased an average 18.7 percent.<sup>50</sup>
  - Between 1990 and 2000 the number of two parent households in **Nassau County** decreased 1.6 percent and single parent households increased an average of 13 percent.
- There is a **scarcity of affordable daycare centers** on the Port Washington Peninsula.<sup>51</sup> There are also very few daycares on the Port Washington Peninsula which offer **daycare for children under two**.<sup>52</sup>
  - Considering that **half of families with children have both parents working**, affordable daycare is a critical need on the Port Washington Peninsula.<sup>53</sup>
- The **Landmark on Main Street** houses the **Port Washington Children's Center** which offers childcare with a sliding scale fee for children over 18 months through 12 years old.<sup>54</sup> The Children's Center offers a Toddler Program for ages 18 months to 2 years old; Preschool program for ages 3 and 4 years old; and a KidsPort program before and after school for children ages 5 through 12 years old.<sup>55</sup>
- Since 1964, the PWUFSD has offered a **pre-kindergarten program** to "help children from disadvantaged families get ready for school."<sup>56</sup>
  - The program, which has an average class size of 16 students, has one director, four teachers, and six educational assistants, and 79 children enrolled in the program this year.
  - The program offers classes for **children ages 3 and 4**. These classes include:<sup>57</sup>
    - Two full-day classes for 4-year-olds.
    - One full-day class for 3-year-olds.
    - Two half-day classes for 3 and 4-year-olds.
  - The program is subsidized by a New York State Grant and offers the classes to those eligible for free or reduced lunch, and those students falling into the next income level.
    - 84 percent of the children in the program receive free and reduced lunch.

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<sup>48</sup> US Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF-1) 100-Percent Data. QT-P10 Households and Families - 11050 zip code & Nassau County

<sup>49</sup> US Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) Sample Data. Family Type by Presence of Related Children under 18 years of Age - 11050 zip code & Nassau County

<sup>50</sup> *ibid*

<sup>51</sup> Madge Kaplan, Director Community Services, Town of North Hempstead. Interview with Patrick Foye, United Way, January 14, 2005. Phyllis Joseph, Landmark on Main Street. Personal Interview. January 2005.

<sup>52</sup> *ibid*

<sup>53</sup> US Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) – Sample Data. DP-2 Profile of Selected Social Characteristics 11050 zip code and Nassau County

<sup>54</sup> Phyllis Joseph, Landmark on Main Street. Personal Interview. January 2005

<sup>55</sup> Port Washington Children's Center website. [www.portwashington.com/pwcc/index.html](http://www.portwashington.com/pwcc/index.html)

<sup>56</sup> Port Washington Union Free School District

<sup>57</sup> *ibid*

- 3 percent receive some form of public assistance
- 23 percent are on Medicaid
- 15 percent are over the income eligibility level.
- The program **stresses parent involvement** and the program's social worker coordinates the following events to bring parents into the classroom:<sup>58</sup>
  - Parent-Child activity nights
  - Multi-cultural parenting
  - Parent Advisory Committee
  - Reading is Fundamental (RIF)
  - Exploring the Citizenship Process
  - Parent Support Group
- The children also interact with other school district staff and students.<sup>59</sup>
  - ESL instruction on a daily basis in full-day classes.
  - Alternative High School students visit twice a week.
  - Third grade "Reading Buddies" visit twice a week.
- The **Parent Resource Center (PRC)** offers Workshops, recreational outings, and educational activities which teach positive parenting strategies: In addition, the PRC offers:<sup>60</sup>
  - Adult education and support groups such as CPR, Mothers of New Infants, and exercise classes all with free childcare provided by our CPR certified caregivers.
  - An Outreach Program to help families "obtain the financial, legal, and job training assistance to which they are entitled."
- The Library also has partnered with the Middle County Public Library to promote the **Family Place Project in Nassau County**, a "national initiative designed to strengthen library services for children and families."<sup>61</sup>
- The Library offers the **Parenting Information Center (PIC)**, the **Parent-Child Home Program**, and the **Parent-Child Workshop**.
  - **The PIC** was established in 1992 with a grant from the New York State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council, to provide resources for parents with disabled children.<sup>62</sup>
    - The PIC provides a collection of books and videos and parenting programs that have information about discipline, behavior modification, educational advocacy, disability awareness, coping and socialization.<sup>63</sup>
  - The **Parent-Child Home Program** serves twelve families in Port Washington who are challenged by "poverty, low levels of education, and language barriers" by providing home-based literacy and parenting education.<sup>64</sup>

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<sup>58</sup> ibid

<sup>59</sup> Port Washington Union Free School District

<sup>60</sup> Parent Resource Center website. [www.parentresource.org/](http://www.parentresource.org/)

<sup>61</sup> Port Washington Public Library website, <http://www.pwpl.org>

<sup>62</sup> ibid

<sup>63</sup> ibid

- Over 80 percent of students who complete the program graduate from high school.<sup>65</sup>
- The **Parent-Child Workshop** began in 1997 and is offered four times a year free of cost.
  - Serving 25 families per session, the Parent-Child Workshop offers information on speech and language, physical fitness, literacy, and nutrition and behavior from training community resource professionals and librarians.<sup>66</sup>

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<sup>64</sup> Port Washington Public Library website, <http://www.pwpl.org>

<sup>65</sup> ibid

<sup>66</sup> ibid

## Immigrants

As the immigrant population on the Port Washington Peninsula increases, it is imperative that translation services be available so the local governments and special districts are able to communicate with this growing population.

- In approximately 70 percent of households, **English is the language spoken at home.**
- **Spanish is the language spoken at home** in about 12 percent of households and an Asian language is spoken at home in about 6 percent of households.<sup>67</sup>
- The Port Washington Peninsula has had in **increase in the number of immigrants**, especially from Asian and Latino countries in the last decade.
- According to the 2000 Census, 24 percent of the population was **born outside the United States.**<sup>68</sup>
  - In 1990, only 16.3 percent of the population was born outside the United States.<sup>69</sup>
- In addition, the number of households whose **primary language is English has decreased** 4 percent since 1990.<sup>70</sup>
- In 1992, the Library established an **ESL** program to help Port Washington residents improve their English reading and writing skills.
  - The program is open to anyone who lives or works in Port Washington.
  - Classes are taught by volunteers with small class sizes.
  - In addition, computer software, books, cassettes, and other material are available for everyone, not just those participating in the program.<sup>71</sup>
- In addition, the Port Washington Community Action Council offers **outreach to the immigrant community** through after school and summer programs.<sup>72</sup>

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<sup>67</sup> US Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) – Sample Data. DP-2 Profile of Selected Social Characteristics

<sup>68</sup> ibid

<sup>69</sup> US Census 1990 Summary Tape File 3 (STF 3) – Sample Data. DP-2 Social Characteristics

<sup>70</sup> US Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) – Sample Data. DP-2 Profile of Selected Social Characteristics and US Census 1990 Summary Tape File 3 (STF 3) – Sample Data. DP-2 Social Characteristics

<sup>71</sup> Port Washington Public Library website, <http://www.pwpl.org>

<sup>72</sup> Interview with Mario Martinez, Port Washington Community Action Council, January 19, 2005.